GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2013
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
POLLUTION IN DELHI
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi is the most polluted among the four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether more pollution is generated in Delhi every year on Deepawali in comparison to other metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the pollution generated in Delhi on Deepawali this year in comparison to other days and other metropolitan cities; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a)&(b)Based on the ambient air quality assessment carried out by the Pollution Control Boards in the metropolitan cities, it has been observed that the levels of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) are higher in DelhiIt is on account of natural dusty conditions as well as vehicular pollution.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During Deepawali, the SPMlevels increased to 1030 micro grams per cubic metre as compared to 769 micro grams per cubic metre on normal days in Delhi. In case of Kolkata, during Deepawali, SPM levels increased to 296 micro grams percubic metre as compared to 216 micro grams per cubic metre on normal days.

(e) Steps taken to check the pollution include the following :

- A multi modal public transport system has been planned and works on modified phase-I of Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System is being executed by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation with effect from 2.10.1998.

- Plying of 8 year old stage carriage buses and contract carriage buses in National Capital Territory (NCT)of Delhi has been banned except on CNG (Compressed Natural Gas).

- Plying of pre-90 autos and taxis have been banned with effect from 1.4.2000 which are being replaced with new vehicles on clean fuel.

- Registration of only those private and commercial vehicles that are complying from time to time with the directions given by the Supreme Court.

- From 1.4.2000 onward, only those private non-commercial vehicles (cars) which confirm to EURO-II/Bharat Stage-II emission norms are being registered.

- Regular checks against polluting vehicles through mobile enforcement teams are being conducted by the Transport Department, Government of Delhi.

- Construction of fly overs at the busy road junctions for smooth running of traffic.

- Standards for crackers and loud speakers have been notified.